

# Workforce News

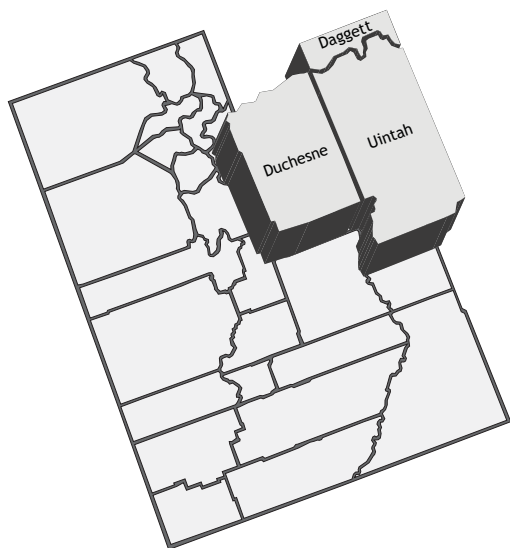
3rd Quarter 2007  
(July/August/Sept)

A quarterly publication of the Department of  
Workforce Services



**Uintah Basin: Daggett, Duchesne, Uintah**

**jobs.utah.gov**



## Intensity of Economic Activity



### Inside:

- ✦ Uintah's economy is still exploding.
- ✦ Duchesne seeing rapid growth
- ✦ Daggett's construction job losses slow economy



Contact the author, your regional economist, with any questions on content:

Michael Hanni  
801-526-9403  
mhanni@utah.gov

Sometimes we think of our local economy as stopping at the county line. Beyond there exists a nebulous world, that we sometimes don't feel connected with. However, each one of our county's economies are intimately linked, even over long distances, in ways that are hard to see. In order to shed light on these linkages we will investigate per-capita gross taxable sales. This measure allows us to see the intensity of sales in a county and get an idea of purchasing patterns within our region.

For our purposes we will use gross taxable sales data for the second quarter of 2006 and the annual population estimate from the Utah Population Estimates Committee for 2006—which, incidentally is for July 1<sup>st</sup>—to create our per-capita figure for each county. Comparing each county's figures to the overall state average gives us some sense of where particular sales are more intense than others. Of course, it is important

(continued)

Find detailed wage information for occupations in Utah: <http://jobs.utah.gov/jsp/wi/utalmis/goto0ccwage.do>

# Intensity of Economic Activity

(continued)

to note that this only represents one quarter of the year and may not be indicative of the county's annual performance.

For the booming Basin it should come as no surprise that all three counties are showing higher sales intensities than the state. While Daggett and Duchesne counties are strong—at 113 and 130 percent of the state's overall figure, respectively—Uintah County is simply stellar, with a sales intensity 246 percent that of the state. These high numbers can, in large part, be tied directly to massive business investment purchases in key energy-related industries. For example, both Duchesne and Uintah counties have per-capita gross taxable sales of mining business investment purchases in excess of 1000 percent of the state's figure.

Beyond business investment purchases, each of the counties had individual industries that turned in strong performances. In Daggett County, both the lodging and recreation industries posted sales that were many times what would be expected for the county's population size—clearly showing the impact and importance of tourism. Duchesne County was competitive in many industries, with sales coming in at expected levels. However, food stores and wholesale non-durable goods industries posted were both much higher than would be expected. Nevertheless, the clear powerhouse in the Basin is Uintah County where business services and wholesale goods, among others, showed very strong intensities of sales.

## Per-capita Gross Taxable Sales Intensities (2006, 2nd Quarter)

<u>Standard Industrial Classification</u>	Daggett	Duchesne	Uintah
<b>Agriculture, Forestry &amp; Fishing</b>		127%	126%
<b>Mining</b>	76%	139%	126%
<b>Construction</b>	133%	221%	167%
<b>Manufacturing</b>	174%	151%	151%
<b>Transportation</b>	44%	159%	199%
<b>Communications</b>		1004%	4449%
<b>Electric &amp; Gas</b>		70%	814%
<b>Wholesale Trade Sales</b>			
Durable Goods	57%	145%	397%
Nondurable Goods	114%	266%	582%
<b>Retail Trade Sales</b>			
Building and Garden Stores		100%	105%
General Merchandise Stores	1%	25%	207%
Food Stores	113%	235%	110%
Motor Vehicle Dealers		108%	176%
Apparel & Accessory Stores	3%	5%	48%
Furniture Stores	1%	60%	88%
Eating & Drinking		46%	79%
Miscellaneous	25%	165%	293%
<b>Finance, Insurance, Real Estate</b>	20%	52%	157%
<b>Service Sales</b>			
Hotels & Lodging	977%	109%	143%
Personal		133%	96%
Business	57%	185%	474%
Auto & Misc. Repair	15%	108%	149%
Amusement & Recreation	1782%	46%	49%
Health		94%	48%
Education, Legal, Social		22%	125%
<b>Public Administration</b>		38%	23%
<b>Private Motor Vehicle Sales</b>	361%	213%	278%
<b>Occasional Retail Sales</b>	3%	6%	74%
<b>Nondisclosable or Nonclassifiable</b>	28294%	410%	471%
<b>Total (Current Period)</b>	113%	130%	246%

Source: Author's calculations based on sales tax data from the Utah State Tax Commission and the Utah Population Estimates Committee.

## Eastern Region Business Services News

jobs.utah.gov

## DWS Contacts

## Business Consultants:

## Blanding

Tim Chamberlain 435-678-1403

## Vernal

Marilyn Wallis 435-781-4128

## Roosevelt

Jeri Uresk 435-722-6518

## Moab

Lisa Roman 435-719-2633

## Emery

Wayne Tuttle 435-381-6101

## Price

Lanore Cunningham 435-636-2349

## Resources

## Child Care Resource and Referral

Lis Barker 435-586-0170

## Contributions-Employer Taxes

Jackie Wurster 435-688-3137

Chad Carter 435-688-3106

DOL Wage/Hour Division 801-524-5706

## Employer Tax Credit

801-526-9484

## Labor Market Information

Michael Hanni-Economist 801-526-9403

## New Hire Reporting

800-222-2857

## Pre-Layoff Assistance

Dawn Lay 801-526-4312

## Unemployment Insurance Information

800-222-2857

## Utah Labor Commission

801-530-6801

## Additional Resources

jobs.utah.gov

Business.utah.gov

## Upcoming Events / Seminars

For information about upcoming DWS seminars and workshops, please contact the office nearest you, or <http://jobs.utah.gov/employer/business/workshops.asp>

## MOAB

The DWS Moab Employment center co-sponsors a monthly **business brown bag workshop** on the fourth Tuesday of every month, at noon, in the DWS conference room. Topics vary but all relate to starting and operating a small business. Call Teresa Wyatt at the Moab Chamber of Commerce for more details at 259-7814.

**Moab Rocks** customer service training is underway through a partnership between the Moab Chamber of Commerce and DWS. This class teaches basic customer service skills as well as equipping employees with great answers to those typical visitor questions, with an eye towards encouraging visitors to stay longer in the area and participate in more activities. A class schedule is being developed, and employers may also request a class for their employees (with a minimum number of participants). Please contact the Moab Chamber of Commerce for details at 259-7814.

**Small Business Sales and Use Tax and Employer Withholding Tax workshops** will be held in **Moab Oct. 9-10, 2007**. The withholding workshop is designed to help small business owners and self-employed persons with employees learn how and when to report unemployment insurance contributions. They will also learn how to withhold income for federal and state taxes, social security, and Worker's Compensation Insurance. Participants learn how to complete employment tax forms and deposit taxes. The Sales and Use Tax workshop is designed to help new business owners understand and comply with Utah's statutes governing sales and use tax. Participants learn about licensing requirements, tax rates, filing returns, remittance of tax, and a basic understanding of what is taxable versus what is exempt. Please note: The Utah CPE Registry has approved 4 hours of CPE credit for CPAs attending the workshop.

## EMERY COUNTY AND PRICE

The Emery County Economic Development Council and the Carbon County Economic Development Group will host the fourth annual **Castle Country Economic Summit**. This year's summit will be held at the new convention center at the Carbon County Fairgrounds **September 19, 20, and 21**. Events planned are classes that offer the opportunity to receive accreditation, informative breakout sessions, our famous Dutch oven dinner at the Castle Valley Ranch, entertainment at both the ranch and the newly constructed North Springs Shooting Range. Events, class schedules and registration forms will be available at [www.emerycounty.com](http://www.emerycounty.com).

*continues on other side*

## INCUMBENT WORKER TRAINING PROGRAM

The Incumbent Worker Training Program (IWTP) is designed to benefit business and industry by assisting in existing employees' skill development and by increasing employee productivity and company growth. It is expected to result in the creation of new jobs, the retention of jobs that otherwise may have been eliminated, and an increase in wages for the trained workers.

The IWTP is a partnership of the Utah Department of Workforce Services, the State Workforce Investment Board, business and industry. Funding for IWTP comes from the Adult and Dislocated Worker programs under the Workforce Investment Act.

The long-term goal for this initiative is to create an infrastructure that provides training and education to enhance the skills of incumbent workers, increase the wages of workers through a career ladder, and positively impact the revenues of businesses by increasing their productivity.

### Who Can Participate?

- All companies in business in Utah for over one year who are in full compliance with the Utah unemployment laws.
- Businesses that have a long-range commitment to employee training
- Businesses with defined advancement opportunities for their employees
- Financially viable businesses
- Businesses willing to provide a 50 percent match of the training costs

### How to Apply

Each year, the DWS and the State Workforce Investment Board will determine the funding level for the IWTP. Funding varies year to year depending on many factors. Once it is determined funding is available, notification to employers occurs by posting an announcement on the DWS web site, [jobs.utah.gov](http://jobs.utah.gov) and sending an announcement via email to all employers registered with the department.

### What is the Business's Responsibility?

- Review the criteria provided in the announcement (criteria may vary with each funding opportunity)
- Prepare your proposal and submit by deadline
- Provide all required information
- If awarded funds, provide quarterly reports that identify the expenditures, company match, training activities, employees trained, certificate/credentials awarded, etc.

### Questions?

If you have additional questions, please contact: Connie Laws at 801-526-9955 or [claws@utah.gov](mailto:claws@utah.gov); or Gary Kennison at 435-764-2968 or [gwkenison@utah.gov](mailto:gwkenison@utah.gov)

### Now Online!

## Employer 101 – Labor Law Basic Training

**One-stop resource promotes voluntary compliance with federal and state labor laws**

The Department of Workforce Services (DWS), the U.S. Department of Labor's Wage and Hour Division and the Utah Labor Commission have joined forces to launch a one-stop online resource for Utah employers on federal and state employment laws: Employer 101 Labor Law Basic Training.

This training offers convenience to all Utah employers throughout the state. Employers can review the information at any time from

the comfort of their own offices. Topics include the Fair Labor Standards Act, anti-discrimination and harassment, and Utah's wage and hour laws.

The Resource Connection page will assist employers with helpful information relating to everything from Anti-discrimination to Youth employment laws. Visit [jobs.utah.gov/edo/laborlaw](http://jobs.utah.gov/edo/laborlaw) for a site designed exclusively for our Utah employers.

## Did You Know?

**As an employer, what do I have to do to complete the I-9?** First, carefully read all instructions on the I-9 form. The employer is responsible to ensure Section 2 is completed properly and timely.

- Complete an I-9 for each new employee within 3 business days of being hired. The new employee must present acceptable documents within 90 days, if these documents are not readily available when completing the I-9 on the date of hire. Employers must record: 1) document title; 2) issuing authority; 3) document number, 4) expiration date, if any; and 5) the date employment begins.
- Employers must keep the I-9 on file for three years from the date of hire, or at least one year from a separation date of an employee, whichever is longer. The I-9 is not forwarded to any federal office, but is maintained in the employer files.
- Records must be available for inspection upon request by USCIS or the Department of Homeland Security. Employers may, but are not required to, photocopy the document(s) presented. These photocopies may only be used for the verification process and must be retained with the I-9.
- The new employee must present documents to satisfy Section 2. The employer must use what is presented, and then certify that they have looked at the documents. The immigration or citizenship documents must be originals -- photocopies are not allowed.

A complete list of acceptable documents to verify identity and employment eligibility of new employees is available on the USCIS web page, [www.uscis.gov](http://www.uscis.gov). USCIS has also initiated a web based verification program for employers. More information is available at <https://www.vis-dhs.com/>.

For additional information or questions, you may contact Norman Nakamura, Department of Workforce Services Liaison with USCIS, at 801-526-9749 or email at [normannakamura@utah.gov](mailto:normannakamura@utah.gov).



# County News

**Daggett County:** Employment in Daggett County, one of Utah's little jewels, had a rough fourth quarter of 2006. Compared with the same quarter the previous year, the county saw the total number of jobs fall by 41 positions, or a 9.2-percent decline. The culprit for this poor showing? Various construction projects in the county began wrapping up during the year, leaving construction employment down nearly 50 percent. The county's other economic drivers—leisure and hospitality and government employment—held steady during the year, providing little help in counteracting construction's slowdown.

**Duchesne County:** There aren't many adjectives that can be used to describe Duchesne County's current economic growth. Compared with the same quarter in 2005, year-over employment growth in the county for the fourth quarter of 2006 reached a remarkable 16.3 percent. In the last year the county has added 980 new jobs. Much of this growth can be attributed to the Basin's energy boom. Mining, construction, and transportation employment all rose significantly in the quarter. Likewise, supporting industries—such as accommodation and food services, and retail trade—also posted strong gains.

**Uintah County:** Like its sister, Duchesne County, Uintah County also posted double-digit year-over growth in the fourth quarter of 2006. In the year between the fourth quarter of 2005 and 2006 the county has added 1,485 jobs, or a total increase in employment of 12.1 percent. The vast majority of these new jobs are in the county's mining, construction, transportation, and manufacturing industries. Mining, in particular, showed tremendous growth, adding 805 jobs on its own—almost as many new jobs as were added in all of Duchesne County. Service-producing industries also joined in the action. Professional and business services, financial activities, and accommodations and food services added jobs in line with the growth of the county's economy.

## Check it Out

There's a gold mine of information for businesses on our Employer Resource Center Web page:

<http://jobs.utah.gov/employer/resource/>.

## What's Up?

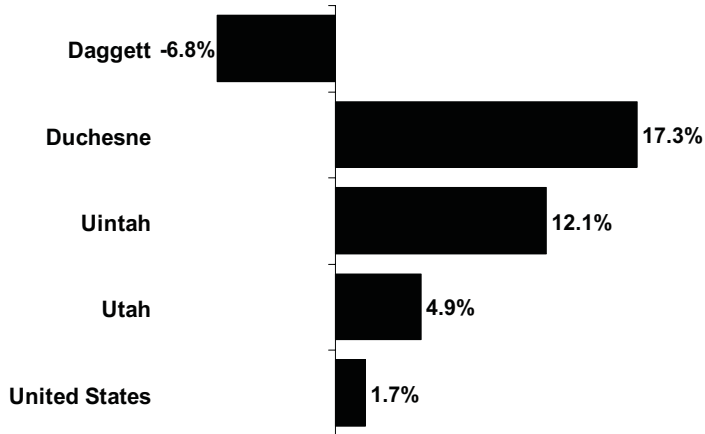
✦ With ground broken, construction is slated to begin on a new \$17-million higher education facility in Vernal. The buildings will be shared by the Uintah Basin Applied Technology College and Utah State University-Uintah Basin.  
- Uintah Basin Standard, 04/17/07

✦ Gull Communications, Inc., a San Diego-based firm, has purchased the *Uintah Basin Standard* and the *Vernal Express* newspapers. Both newspapers, which serve Duchesne and Uintah counties respectively, will remain in publication. Gull Communications also owns the *Richfield Reaper* in Richfield, the *Sun Advocate* in Price, and the *Emery County Progress* in Castle Dale.  
- Deseret Morning News, 03/24/07

**Uintah Basin: Daggett, Duchesne, Uintah**

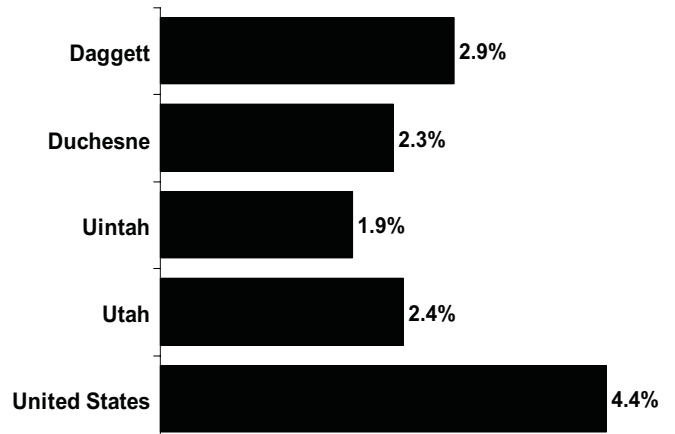
**jobs.utah.gov**

**Year-over Change in Non-farm Jobs  
December 2005 to December 2006**



Source: Utah Dept. of Workforce Services; U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

**Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rate  
March 2007**



Source: Utah Dept. of Workforce Services; U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

03-51UB-0607